ODTONS

2009 annual enrollment highlights guide

explore your options

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enhance your life

Use Your Flexible Spending Accounts and Save

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Enroll by phone: 1-888-822-0487

Enroll online:

www.buckhrsolutions.com/countyla

Get answers to your questions (Benefits Hotline): 1-213-388-9982

If you (and/or your dependents) have Medicare or will become eligible for Medicare in the next 12 months, a Federal law gives you more choices about your prescription drug coverage. Please see the prescription drug coverage and Medicare notice on page 10 for more details.

Your *Options* benefit program is a joint effort of the County of Los Angeles and SEIU Local 721. They work together to negotiate the benefits that are offered, the amount of the monthly benefit allowance, and other details of the program.



what's inside

Welcome to Annual Enrollment 2009

Get the scoop on what's new for this year, find out how to enroll, and check out the County's Flexible Spending Account (FSA) program—a great way to save money!

Do You Have a Support System?

Life Insurance, Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance, and LTD Health Insurance find out how to protect yourself against the unexpected

It's Time to Enroll

Learn how to enroll yourself and your dependents for coverage in 2009

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Enhance Your Life: Save Money Using Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs)

Discover how to save on your health care and dependent care expenses

Take care of yourself by choosing the best options for you and your family

mnortant

Important Medicare

Get details about Medicare coverage

welcome to annual enrollment 2009

Welcome to annual enrollment for your County of Los Angeles *Options* flexible benefits program. This is a great time to explore all of the County's medical, dental, and life insurance programs and choose those that best meet your and your family's needs.

We are committed to offering benefits you value and giving you the tools and information to choose what's right for you. With that goal in mind, we recently hosted focus groups with more than 140 Options participants to learn how to improve our annual enrollment communication. On the basis of your feedback, we made several enhancements to the materials you receive from the County—including the enrollment newsletter, this Highlights Guide, and a Summary Plan Description that includes more details of your coverage under Options. We appreciate your input and are pleased to offer communication materials designed to meet your needs.

What's Changing in 2009

Your *Options* plan choices are not changing for 2009. However, due to continued increases in the cost of health care, monthly medical premiums and most dental premiums will increase next year. To help you cover the additional cost, your unionnegotiated *Options* monthly benefit allowance is increasing 10%. This amount, which the County contributes on your behalf, is shown in the enclosed *Personalized Enrollment Worksheet*.

For 2009, we are introducing a few important enhancements to our medical and dental plans:*

- \$0 Copay for Preventive Care under Kaiser and PacifiCare:
 Preventive care under Kaiser and both PacifiCare plans will be covered at 100% with no copay!
 - Preventive care includes periodic health evaluations, mammograms, immunizations and more. Refer to the *Medical and Dental Plans Comparison Chart* included in your enrollment packet for more information.
- Delta Dental Increases Annual Maximum Benefit and Now Covers Implants and Orthodontia:
 The annual maximum benefit will increase to \$1,750. Orthodontia and implants are now covered at 50%. Orthodontia is subject to a \$1,200 lifetime maximum.
 A third teeth cleaning is covered if medically necessary.
- Optional Life Insurance Rates
 Decreased: Optional group term life
 and dependent term life insurance
 rates dropped 10%. Refer to pages
 21 and 22 of the enclosed SPD for
 the new monthly rates.

When to Enroll

Annual enrollment for County of Los Angeles employees is **October 1 through 31, 2008**. Your enrollment packet includes all the information you need to select the plans that are right for you:

• A Personalized Enrollment Worksheet that shows your

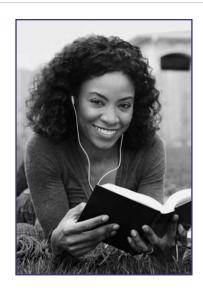
- current plan elections, monthly benefit allowance, and premium rates for 2009. It also includes the employee number and PIN that you'll need to enroll.
- This Annual Enrollment
 Highlights Guide, with an overview
 of your enrollment options and
 instructions on how to enroll.
- A Medical and Dental Plans
 Comparison Chart that provides details on your medical and dental plan options, allowing you to compare specific plan features such as deductibles and out-of-pocket costs.
- A Summary Plan Description
 (SPD) Booklet with detailed
 information about your plan options.
 (Be sure to keep this booklet for
 future reference. It will not be
 mailed to you every year. It's also
 available on the enrollment and
 DHR Web sites.)
- A survey that gives you a chance to tell us what you think of the changes we made to your enrollment communications and a chance to win a \$25 gift card.

We encourage you to take time to explore the enclosed enrollment communications and consider which benefit plans are right for you in the coming year.

We wish you and your family a healthy 2009.

^{*} Benefit plans and premium rate changes are subject to final approval by the Board of Supervisors.

it's time to enroll



Don't Miss Your Chance to Enroll October 1 through 31, 2008!

Annual enrollment is your opportunity to decide which benefit options are best for you. If you don't enroll by October 31, you'll have to wait until October 2009 to make any changes (unless you experience a qualified change in status—for example, you get married or have a child; please refer to your SPD for more details). If you have an FSA—a Health Care or **Dependent Care Spending** Account—you MUST re-enroll to participate in 2009. Don't miss your chance to change your benefit elections.

Annual enrollment is the time to review your benefit options and consider whether they're right for you or if it's time for a change. Perhaps your or your family's medical or dental care needs changed or you added a dependent and you want to explore your coverage options. Or perhaps you want to consider enrolling in a Flexible Spending Account (FSA). This guide and the enclosed materials are designed to help you understand your options, compare your costs, and decide which benefits are right for you and your family.

Enrolling is easy! Follow these simple steps.

1

Read your enrollment materials.

Your *Options* benefit program offers a range of benefit plans and choices. This is the time to consider your options in light of your and your family's needs. Remember, your needs may be different than those of your co-workers, and those needs can change over time.

2

Consider how you might save money using an FSA. FSAs are an easy way to save on eligible health care and dependent care expenses. Plus, if you enroll in a Dependent Care Spending Account, the County contributes up to \$375 monthly depending on your annual base pay. Make sure you read all the details starting on page 31 of the enclosed SPD before you sign up.



Adding dependents?

If you are adding dependents to your coverage in 2009, the County must receive proof of their dependent status within 10 calendar days from the date you enroll. Refer to your SPD for detailed information about documentation that proves dependent status.

IMPORTANT: If your documentation is not received by the County within 10 calendar days of your enrollment, your dependents will not be covered and you will not be allowed to add them until the next year.



3

Enroll. After you determine which options are right for you, gather the information you'll need. Now, it's time to enroll! Be sure you have your *Personalized Enrollment Worksheet* with your employee number and PIN. You can enroll:

- Online at www.buckhrsolutions.com/countyla
 Follow the instructions provided online. Be sure to click "CONFIRM" and print your 2009 confirmation statement before logging off.
- By phone at 1-888-822-0487
 Follow the recorded instructions. Don't hang up until you hear "Your benefit elections have been confirmed and recorded." You will receive a confirmation statement in the mail within seven days. If you don't receive your statement, call the Benefits Hotline at 1-213-388-9982.

4

Review your confirmation statement. When you have your confirmation statement, review it carefully to ensure that all information is correct. You should file this statement along with other important benefit information (such as the enclosed SPD) so that you have it for future reference.

ATTENTION! ALL EMPLOYEES CURRENTLY WAIVING COVERAGE

To waive medical coverage for 2009, you must recertify your waiver and provide proof of other coverage. There are no exceptions! If you do not recertify your waiver, you will be automatically enrolled in the PacifiCare HMO and you will not be allowed to waive coverage again until 2010. So, if you don't want County medical coverage in 2009, take action! Refer to page 8 of your SPD for more details.



We are the County of Los Angeles

YOU ARE A VITAL PART OF YOUR COMMUNITY. EACH AND EVERY DAY, YOU PUT THE NEEDS OF OTHERS FIRST. YOU WORK HARD, YOU IMPROVE LIVES, AND YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE. IT'S WHO YOU ARE—AND WE VALUE YOU FOR YOUR EFFORTS. THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES WANTS TO GIVE BACK SOMETHING TO THOSE WHO GIVE SO MUCH. WE WANT TO GIVE YOU BENEFITS THAT HELP IMPROVE YOUR LIFE.

your benefits

The County of Los Angeles cares about you and your family. That's why we offer benefits that provide for your needs today and in the future. Through a comprehensive benefit program that includes medical, dental, life, and LTD health insurance, we help you enrich your life while protecting your future and your loved ones.

OPTIONS 2009 BENEFITS AT A GLANCE

Medical

- Kaiser HMO
- PacifiCare HMO
- PacifiCare PPO

Denta

- SafeGuard HMO-style plan
- DeltaCare HMO-style plan
- Delta Dental PPO-style plan

Life Insurance

- Basic term life insurance
- Optional group term life insurance
- Dependent term life insurance

Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D) Insurance

Medical Coverage Protection (Long Term Disability Health Insurance)

Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs)

- Health Care Spending Account
- Dependent Care Spending Account

Your Medical Plan Options

Your *Options* program offers three medical plan options:

- Kaiser HMO
- PacifiCare HMO
- PacifiCare PPO.

An HMO (health maintenance organization) requires you to receive all of your care from members of a network of participating providers. To be covered for benefits, you must access medical care through your primary care physician.

A PPO (preferred provider organization) gives you the freedom to choose to go to any network or out-of-network provider. When you go to network providers, the plan pays higher benefits (you pay less).

See the Medical and Dental Plans Comparison Chart and SPD in your enrollment packet for more information about each plan's benefits and coverage levels.



Thinking about changing medical plans or wanting to find a new doctor?

- For PacifiCare:
 Go online to
 healthyatcola.com
 and click on "Doctor
 Search" (located
 in the left-side
 navigation bar).
- For Kaiser: Go online to my.kp.org/ca/ countyofla and click on "clinical staff directory" in the "Get Started Now" section.

Thinking about changing dental plans or wanting to find a new dentist?

- For SafeGuard:
 Go online to
 www.safeguard.net
 and click on "Dental
 and Vision Directories"
 and follow the
 instructions.
- For DeltaCare and Delta Dental:
 Go online to deltadental.com, then "Dentists" (in the left sidebar), and select "Dentist Search."

Be sure to keep your SPD! This booklet is a valuable resource for plan information.

It will not be mailed to you every year, so it is important that you keep your copy for future reference.

This Highlights Guide is not an official summary plan description (SPD) or official plan document. If you need a copy of an official plan document, contact the plan's Customer Service department directly. If there is a difference between what you read in this guide and what you read in an official plan document, the official plan document will rule.

Your Dental Plan Options

Your *Options* program offers two HMO-style dental plan options:

- SafeGuard
- DeltaCare.

In addition, you have a PPO-style dental plan option:

· Delta Dental.

The HMO-style dental plans require that you receive all of your dental care from members of a network of participating dental offices. When you enroll, you choose a dental office, which becomes your "primary care office," and you must go to this office for all of your dental care.

The PPO offers two different networks of participating dentists and dental care providers:

- Delta Preferred Option (DPO)
 network: This network offers the
 highest benefit. Most preventive
 services are covered at 100%;
 many other services are covered
 at 85%. You pay no deductible.
- Delta Participating Dentist network:
 Delta pays benefits based on a fee agreement with the network's dentists. Most routine services are covered at 85%.

When you enroll in a PPO, you can go to any dentist from either network, or to an out-of-network dentist. When you go to network providers, the plan pays higher benefits (you pay less).

See your SPD and the *Medical and Dental Plans Comparison Chart* for additional information about your dental plan options.



do you have a support system?

Sometimes, the unexpected happens. Your *Options* program offers life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment insurance, and LTD health insurance to protect you and your family.

Life Insurance

The County gives you basic term life insurance at no cost to you.

- General Members of Retirement Plan A,
 B, C, or D: You are insured for \$2,000.
- Members of Retirement Plan E: You are insured for \$10,000.

You may buy optional group term life insurance of one to eight times your annual salary at low monthly group rates. You may only increase your insurance amount by one times your annual salary each year.

Remember, the County pays 15% of the monthly premium.

If you buy optional group term life insurance for yourself, you may also buy a limited amount of life insurance for your spouse/domestic partner and dependent children. The *Personalized Enrollment Worksheet* in your enrollment packet shows how much you can buy and the monthly premium rates (your cost). See the enclosed SPD for more information.

Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance

You can buy accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance at low monthly group rates. If you die in an accident, become paralyzed, or lose a limb, eyesight, speech or hearing because of an accident, your AD&D insurance pays benefits. Look at your *Personalized Enrollment Worksheet* for AD&D coverage costs.

If you have AD&D coverage under *Options*, you may also buy coverage for your eligible spouse/domestic partner and dependent children. See the enclosed SPD for more information.

Medical Coverage Protection (LTD Health Insurance)

If you are a General Member of Retirement Plan A, B, C, D, or E of the Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association (LACERA) and are enrolled in a County-sponsored medical plan, you are eligible to participate in the LTD health insurance plan. This plan is designed to help you continue your medical insurance coverage if you are eligible for long term disability and become totally and permanently disabled.

For new disabilities incurred on or after January 1, 2008, all *Options* participants who meet the eligibility requirements will be covered under the LTD health insurance provisions at no cost to them. LTD health insurance pays 75% of your monthly medical premium and you pay the remaining 25%. Beginning January 1, 2008, eligible employees could elect to "buy-up" to 100% LTD health insurance at a cost of \$3.00 per month. Under this optional coverage, LTD health insurance pays 100% of the monthly medical plan premium while you receive LTD benefits.



If you did not elect to purchase the optional 100% LTD health insurance coverage for 2008, you cannot elect this coverage for the plan year beginning January 1, 2009, You must wait until annual enrollment for the January 1, 2010 plan year to elect this coverage again. If you are enrolled in 100% LTD health insurance for 2008 and you cancel coverage for 2009, you have to wait until 2011 to re-enroll.

enhance your life:

save money using flexible spending accounts (FSAs)

Reminder: You must re-enroll in FSAs each year if you wish to participate.

SAVE

UP TO \$1.088* ON TAXES

Health Care Spending Account

Contribute from \$10 per month to \$400 per month.

Your account may be used for expenses incurred by you, your spouse (within the meaning of federal tax law**), and your other dependents. Eligible expenses include those often not covered by your health plans, such as medical and dental deductibles and copayments; routine physical exams; orthodontia; vision care (including prescription eyeglasses, contact lenses and solution, laser eye surgery, and nonprescription reading glasses); over-the-counter medications; hearing aids and tests; and smoking-cessation programs, nicotine patches, and nicotine gum.

For a complete list of eligible and ineligible expenses, refer to IRS Publication 502 at www.irs.gov/formspubs/index.html. In the section "Download forms and publications by:" click on "Publication number," then scroll down the list of publications and click on "2007 Publ 502 Medical and Dental Expenses." Expenses must be incurred by December 31, 2009 and submitted for reimbursement by June 30, 2010.

Under the County's program, some expenses (such as insurance premiums) are not eligible for reimbursement under the Health Care Spending Account. See the SPD for more information.

- * Based on 2008 tax rates, assuming you are married, are filing your taxes jointly, and have a combined annual income of \$50,000.
- ** A "spouse" is defined uniformly for all federal laws as a person of the opposite sex who is a husband or wife.

What if you could reduce your out-of-pocket health care expenses by 10% to 30% or more? How about reducing the cost to provide care for your kids or adult dependents while you work? If that sounds good, consider enrolling in a Flexible Spending Account (FSA). With an FSA you never pay federal or state taxes on the money you contribute. Depending on your tax bracket, you can save 11 to 44 cents on every dollar you spend in eligible expenses.

Options offers two types of FSAs: a Health Care Spending Account and a Dependent Care Spending Account. You may enroll in one or both spending accounts. Here's how they work:

- You enroll in the Health Care Spending Account and/or Dependent Care Spending Account during annual enrollment. When you enroll, you decide how much to contribute to each account. You may contribute a maximum of \$400 a month to each account in 2009. The County will contribute up to \$375 monthly to your Dependent Care Spending Account, depending on your annual base pay. (The maximum you may contribute to the Dependent Care Spending Account is \$4,800 a year if married and filing jointly, or \$2,500 if married and filing separately. The County's contribution to the Dependent Care Spending Account counts toward these limits.)
- You can use the FSA expense estimation worksheets on pages 30 and 37 of the SPD to work out how much you want to contribute.

- Your contributions are taken out of each paycheck on a before-tax basis and credited to a recordkeeping account in your name. This begins with your first paycheck in January.
- You pay eligible health care and/ or dependent care expenses and submit a claim form to the FSA administrator. The FSA administrator reimburses you and debits the amount from your recordkeeping account. You effectively pay your expenses with tax-free dollars!

Important FSA Considerations

- You save on "eligible expenses."
 Just as a coupon often has limits on what you can use it for, so do FSAs. See the "coupons" on pages 8 and 9 to see what you can use the FSAs for.
- You have to use these accounts by a certain date. The only catch with FSAs is that you have to use the money you put in them before they "expire." An IRS rule states that any money in your FSAs that isn't spent by the end of the specified period must be forfeited. But don't let that stop you from taking advantage of the great tax benefits FSAs offer. Just take a little time to plan, and don't put more in your account than you think you need to spend for the year. Be sure to read the FSA section of the enclosed SPD before you enroll.

Added Bonus for the Dependent Care Spending Account

If you enroll in the Dependent Care Spending Account, the County will make a nontaxable monthly contribution based on your annual base pay. And you don't even need to contribute to get this! See the chart below to find out how much the County will contribute in 2009. Please note that you can make contributions in addition to those made by the County—you just have to be sure that the combined contribution doesn't exceed IRS limits.

Remember, you must enroll in the Dependent Care Spending Account to be eligible for the County contribution.

YOUR ANNUAL BASE PAY	COUNTY'S MONTHLY CONTRIBUTION (Subject to Annual Cap on Contribution*)
Less than \$30,000	\$375
\$30,000 to \$34,999	\$300
\$35,000 to \$39,999	\$275
\$40,000 to \$44,999	\$200
\$45,000 to \$49,999	\$125
\$50,000 or more	\$ 75

'Important Note: The County and SEIU Local 721 agreed to a cap on the total annual County contributions and the rules under which the cap will be administered. This cap will be monitored on a monthly basis. If the cap is reached in 2009, the County contribution you receive will be reduced for the month in which the cap is reached and then will be stopped completely for the remainder of the plan year. Because of the cap, there is no guarantee that you will receive the full monthly contribution during the full plan year. Before the cap is reached, you will be notified. At that time, you may have the opportunity to increase your own contribution for the remainder of the plan year. In addition, you may be allowed to make other changes that are consistent with a qualifying change in status, cost, or coverage (for example, revoking your election if your dependent care provider quits or terminates its contract with you). See the enclosed SPD for more information.



SAVE

ON TAXES AND RECEIVE UP TO \$4,500* FROM THE COUNTY

Dependent Care Spending Account

Contribute up to \$400** per month.

Eligible expenses include out-ofpocket expenses for the care of your child(ren) under age 13, or a spouse (within the meaning of federal law***) or dependent parent who is incapable of self-care, so that you (and your spouse if you are married) can work or attend school full time. Eligible expenses include child and adult day care provided at your home; nursery schools and preschools (if the cost of schooling cannot be separated from the cost of care); properly licensed day care centers that care for six or more children (including summer day camps); care outside the home for children and adult dependents; and the cost of transportation of a qualifying individual by the care provider to or from the place care is provided.

For a complete list of eligible and ineligible expenses, refer to IRS Publication 503 at www.irs.gov/formspubs/index.html. In the section "Download forms and publications by:" click on "Publication number," then scroll down the list of publications and click on "2007 Publ 503 Child and Dependent Care Expenses." Expenses must be incurred by December 31, 2009 and submitted for reimbursement by June 30, 2010.

- * The County's contribution ranges from \$375 a month to \$75 a month, depending on your annual base pay.
- ** The County's contribution reduces the amount you can contribute...but that means you are spending even less on dependent care!
- *** A "spouse" is defined uniformly for all federal laws as a person of the opposite sex who is a husband or wife.

important notice from the county of los angeles about your prescription drug coverage and medicare

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it.

This notice provides information about your current prescription drug coverage under the County of Los Angeles (County) Options Plan, the prescription drug coverage that will be provided under Options as of January 1, 2009, and prescription drug coverage available for individuals with Medicare. It also explains the options you have under Medicare prescription drug coverage and can help you decide whether you want to enroll in this coverage. If you are considering enrolling in a Medicare prescription drug plan, you should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are offered and associated costs for those drugs, with the coverage and costs of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area. At the end of this notice is information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage.

There are two important facts you need to know about your current coverage and Medicare's prescription drug coverage:

- Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare through Medicare prescription drug plans and Medicare Advantage Plans (such as an HMO or PPO) that offer prescription drug coverage. All Medicare prescription drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.
- 2. The County determined that the prescription drug coverage currently offered under the Kaiser HMO and PacifiCare HMO and PPO plans, and the coverage that will be offered under these plans as of January 1, 2009, is on average for all plan participants who participate in any of these health plans expected to pay out as much as the standard Medicare prescription drug coverage will pay, and that such coverage is considered Creditable Coverage. Because all of the health plans available under Options provide Creditable Coverage, you may elect any of these coverage options for the 2009 plan year and not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you decide to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan on a later date, provided that you do not experience a 63-day break in coverage (as discussed in more detail below).

When Are You Eligible to Enroll in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan?

You may enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare and thereafter during each calendar year from November 15th through December 31st.

If you lose your Creditable Coverage under Options through no fault of your own, you will also be eligible for a two (2) month Special Enrollment Period to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan.

What Happens to Your Current Creditable Coverage if You Decide to Enroll in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan?

If you participate in Kaiser or any of the PacifiCare plans, you may: (1) keep your existing coverage without enrolling in a Part D plan; (2) keep your existing coverage and enroll in a Part D plan as a supplement to that coverage; or (3) drop your existing coverage and enroll in a Part D plan. If you elect Medicare Part D coverage as a supplement to your Kaiser coverage, your current coverage will not be affected. Alternatively, if you elect Medicare Part D coverage through Kaiser and also assign Medicare Parts A and B to Kaiser, you will be placed in the Kaiser Sr. Advantage Plan, which will coordinate with Medicare. If you elect Medicare Part D coverage as a supplement to your PacifiCare coverage, PacifiCare will coordinate with Medicare.

If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your current coverage, you and your dependents would be able to re-enroll in the future during an *Options* open enrollment period.

Please contact the County of Los Angeles Benefit Plan Administrator for more information about what happens to your coverage if you enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan.

When Will You Pay a Higher Premium (a Penalty) to Join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan?

It is important to note that if you drop or lose your coverage with the County and, although you are eligible to do so, you do not enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan within 63 continuous days after your current coverage ends, you may pay a higher premium (a penalty) to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan on a later date.

If you go 63 continuous days or longer without Creditable Coverage, when you enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage, your monthly premium may go up by at least 1% of the Medicare base beneficiary premium per month for every month that you did not have such coverage. For example, if you go nineteen months without Creditable Coverage, vour premium under Medicare may consistently be at least 19% higher than the Medicare base beneficiary premium. You may have to pay this higher premium (a penalty) for as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. Additionally, you may have to wait until the beginning of the next enrollment period for Medicare prescription drug plans (i.e., November 15th) to enroll in the Medicare coverage.

For More Information About this Notice or Your Current Prescription Drug Coverage...

Please contact the **County of Los Angeles Benefit Plan Administrator** at the address listed on this page or the **Benefits Hotline** at

the phone number listed on this page for further information.

NOTE: You will receive this notice at other times in the future indicating that you may enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage. For example, you will receive this notice prior to the next annual enrollment period during which you may enroll in Medicare coverage and you will also receive a notice if your current prescription drug coverage with the County changes. You may request a copy of this notice by contacting the County of Los Angeles

Benefit Plan Administrator at the address or phone number listed on this page.

For More Information About Your Options Under Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage...

More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is in the "Medicare & You" handbook. If you are eligible for Medicare, you will get a copy of the handbook in the mail every year from Medicare. You may also be contacted directly by Medicare prescription drug plans. For more information about Medicare prescription drug plans:

- Visit www.medicare.gov,
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see the inside back cover of your copy of the Medicare & You handbook for their telephone number) for personalized help, or
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

For people with limited income and resources, extra help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage is available. Information about this extra help is available from the Social Security Administration (SSA) online at www.socialsecurity.gov, or you may call them at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Remember to keep this notice. If you enroll in a Medicare drug plan, you may be required to provide a copy of this notice when you join to show that you maintained creditable coverage and that you are not required to pay a higher premium amount for coverage (a penalty).

Date: September 15, 2008

Entity providing this Notice: County of Los Angeles

Contact: Benefit Plan Administrator

Address: 3333 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1000,

Los Angeles, CA 90010

Benefits Hotline: 1-213-388-9982